What is claimed is:

1. A method of sending feedback information in a fast automatic repeat request for frequency division duplex or time division duplex communication that form an overall wireless communication system having uplink traffic and downlink traffic transmitted in a plurality of slots forming a frame, comprising the steps of:

receiving packets at a receiver, where the received packets are then de-interleaved, de-ratematched, decoded and monitored for error detection; and

acknowledging the received packets by transmitting feedback data to the sender of the packets, said acknowledgement comprising the reservation of a plurality of slots in the uplink or downlink dedicated physical channel radio frame for the feedback data.

2. A method according to claim 1, where there are N slots per frame and wherein the feedback data is transmitted in slots N_1 to N_2-1 and the data in the uplink or downlink direction are transmitted in slots 1 to N_1-1 and in slots N_2 to N, where $N_1 > 1$ and $N2 > N_1 + 1$.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the value of N_1 is based upon the time offset between uplink and downlink channels as well as based upon the time required for de-interleaving, de-ratematching, decoding and cyclical redundancy checking.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the number of slots reserved for feedback data, ($N_{fb} = N_2 - N_1$) is a function of the size of the feedback packet.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the value of N_1 is based upon the time offset between uplink and downlink channels as well as based upon the time required for de-interleaving, de-ratematching, decoding and cyclical redundancy checking.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the number of slots reserved for feedback data, ($N_{fb} = N_2 - N_1$) is a function of the size of the feedback packet.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of slots in the uplink or downlink dedicated physical channel radio frame for the feedback data is used for the feedback data only.

8. A method of sending feedback information in a fast automatic repeat request for frequency division duplex or time division duplex communication that form an overall wireless communication system having uplink traffic and downlink traffic, transmitted in a plurality of slots forming a frame, comprising the steps of:

receiving packets at a receiver, where the received packets are then de-interleaved, de-ratematched, decoded and monitored for error detection; and

using less than all of the dedicated physical control channel (DPCCH) bits in at least some of the slots for transmitting the feedback data to the sender.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein if more than a few feedback bits are required, than the spreading factor (SF) of the DPCCH is reduced, thereby creating more bits per time slot for use at least in part as feedback bits.

10. A method according to claim 8, wherein the feedback data to be transmitted to the sender is punctured into bits of the pilot, feedback (FBI) or transmit power control (TPC) fields in at least one time slot.

11. A method according to claim 8, wherein the feedback data to be transmitted to the sender is punctured into bits of the transport format combination indicator (TFCI) field if the number of transport format combinations needed during the connection leaves part or whole of the TFCI field unused.

12. A method of sending feedback information in a fast automatic repeat request for frequency division duplex or time division duplex communication that form an overall wireless communication system having uplink traffic and downlink traffic transmitted in a plurality of slots forming a frame, comprising the steps of:

receiving packets at a receiver, where the received packets are then de-interleaved, de-ratematched, decoded and monitored for error detection; and

acknowledging the received packets by transmitting feedback data in a feedback channel to the sender of the packets, wherein the feedback channel is generated in the same manner as a channel is generated for compressed mode.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the feedback channel is generated by puncturing into fields.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the fields are control fields.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the fields are control fields and/or data fields.

16. A method according to claim 13, wherein the feedback data can be delayed and therefore presented in a later frame.

17. A method according to claim 12, wherein the feedback channel can be generated by higher layer scheduling.